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Fifty-eighth session
Third Committee
Agenda item 108
Crime prevention and criminal justice

Austria, Hungary, Italy, Mexico, Poland and Russian Federation: draft resolution

Strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991 on the creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in which it approved the statement of principles and programme of action annexed to that resolution,

Recalling also its resolution 57/173 of 18 December 2002 on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/21 of 22 July 2003 on international cooperation in the fight against transnational organized crime: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[1]

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/22 of 22 July 2003 on strengthening international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting the implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism within the framework of the activities of the Centre for International Crime Prevention,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/24 of 22 July 2003 on the work of the Centre for International Crime Prevention, including the management of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund,

[1] Resolution 55/25.

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Emphasizing the role of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, specifically the reduction of criminality, more efficient and effective law enforcement and administration of justice, respect for human rights and rule of law, and promotion of the highest standards of fairness, humanity and professional conduct,

Recognizing that action against global criminal activity is a common and shared responsibility,

Convinced of the desirability of closer coordination and cooperation among States in combating crime, including organized crime, corruption, the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, especially women and children, drug-related crimes, money-laundering, the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition and the criminal misuse of information technologies, as well as criminal activities carried out for the purpose of furthering terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, bearing in mind the role that could be played by both the United Nations and regional organizations in this respect,

Recognizing existing efforts at the regional level that complement the work of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in combating the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and noting in this context the ongoing work of the Bali and Puebla processes,[2]

Recognizing existing efforts that complement the work of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in combating corruption, and noting the outcome of Global Forum III on Fighting Corruption and Safeguarding Integrity, held at Seoul from 29 to 31 May 2003,

Acknowledging the role of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice and their development, as reflected in Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/30 of 22 July 2003,

Recognizing the urgent need to increase technical cooperation activities to assist countries, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition, with their efforts in translating United Nations conventions and other legal instruments and policy guidelines into practice,

Recalling its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, and its resolution 55/255 of 31 May 2001, by which it adopted the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition,

Recalling also its resolution 58/... of ... 2003, by which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

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[2] Second Regional Ministerial Conference on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, held at Bali, Indonesia, from 28 to 30 April 2003; and the eighth Regional Conference on Migration, held at Cancún, Mexico, on 29 and 30 May 2003, as part of the Puebla Process.

Recognizing the need to maintain a balance in the technical cooperation capacity of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime between all priorities identified by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, in which it requested the Secretary-General, as a matter of urgency, to provide the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient resources for the full implementation of its mandate, in conformity with the high priority attached to the Programme,

Bearing in mind the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/59 of 4 December 2000,

Recalling the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, annexed to General Assembly resolution 56/261 of 31 January 2002,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/25 of 22 July 2003 on international cooperation, technical assistance and advisory services in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Aware of the continued increase in requests for technical assistance forwarded to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by least developed countries, developing countries, countries with economies in transition and countries emerging from conflict,

Appreciating the funding provided by certain Member States in 2002 and 2003 that has permitted the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance its capacity to execute an increased number of projects in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 57/173;[3]

2. *Affirms* the importance of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fulfilment of its mandate in crime prevention and criminal justice, including to prevent and combat terrorism, in particular in strengthening international cooperation and providing technical assistance, upon request, which complements the work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the Security Council;

3. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, in responding to the needs of the international community in the face of both national and transnational criminality, and in assisting Member States in achieving the goals of preventing crime within and among States and improving the response to crime;

4. *Reiterates its appreciation* of the decision of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to mainstream a gender perspective into its activities and its request that a gender perspective be integrated into all activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

5. *Reaffirms* the role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in providing to Member States, upon request, technical cooperation, advisory services

[3] A/58/222.

and other forms of assistance in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the areas of prevention and control of transnational organized crime, corruption and terrorism as well as in the area of reconstruction of national criminal justice systems;

6. *Recognizes* the progress made in the implementation of the global programmes addressing the trafficking in human beings, corruption, organized crime and terrorism, formulated on the basis of close consultations with Member States and review by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and calls upon the Secretary-General to enhance further the visibility of those programmes and to strengthen the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by providing it with the resources necessary for the full implementation of its mandate in crime prevention and criminal justice;

7. *Supports* the high priority given to technical cooperation and advisory services in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the areas of prevention and control of transnational organized crime, corruption and terrorism, and stresses the need to enhance the operational activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to assist, in particular, developing countries, countries with economies in transition and countries emerging from conflict;

8. *Urges* States and relevant international organizations to develop national, regional and international strategies and other necessary measures which complement the work of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in addressing effectively the significant problems posed by the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and related activities;

9. *Invites* all States to support the operational activities of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, through voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, or through contributions in direct support of such activities, including for the provision of technical assistance for the implementation of the commitments entered into at the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, including the measures outlined in the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century;

10. *Encourages* relevant programmes, funds and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, international financial institutions, in particular the World Bank, and regional and national funding agencies, to support the technical operational activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice;

11. *Urges* States and funding agencies to review, as appropriate, their funding policies for development assistance and to include a crime prevention and criminal justice component in such assistance;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to exercise more vigorously its mandated function of resource mobilization, and calls upon the Commission to strengthen further its activities in this direction, also in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/31 of 22 July 2003 on the functioning of the Commission;

13. *Notes with appreciation* the decision to organize a senior-level discussion during the thirteenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on progress made with regard to the criminal justice aspects of terrorism and international conventions and protocols related to terrorism;

14. *Expresses its appreciation* to non-governmental organizations and other relevant sectors of civil society for their support to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme;

15. *Invites* relevant entities of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, and other international funding agencies to increase their interaction with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in order to benefit from synergies and avoid duplication of effort, and to ensure that, as appropriate, activities on crime prevention and criminal justice, including activities related to the prevention of corruption, are considered in their sustainable development agenda, and that the expertise of the Office in activities related to crime prevention and criminal justice, including activities related to the prevention of corruption and promotion of the rule of law is fully utilized;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to provide adequate support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as the principal policy-making body in this field, in performing its activities, including cooperation and coordination with the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network of Institutes and other relevant bodies;

17. *Welcomes* the entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Convention) and the forthcoming entry into force of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air and the results of the treaty event "Focus 2003: treaties against transnational organized crime and terrorism", organized by the Secretary-General in New York from 23 to 26 September 2003;

18. *Emphasizes* the importance of the expeditious entry into force of the remaining Protocol to the Convention;

19. *Urges* all States and regional economic organizations that have not yet done so to ratify, or accede to, as soon as possible, the Convention so as to participate in the conference of the parties at its inaugural session, to be held at Vienna from 28 June to 9 July 2004;

20. *Welcomes* the voluntary contributions already made, and encourages States to make adequate and regular voluntary contributions for the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, through the United Nations funding mechanism specifically designed for that purpose in the Convention or in direct support of implementation activities and initiatives;

21. *Welcomes* the successful outcome of the negotiations of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and invites States and competent regional and economical organizations to participate in the high-level political conference for the purpose of signing the Convention, to be held at Mérida, Mexico, from 9 to 11 December 2003, and urges them to take all necessary measures to ratify the Convention as soon as possible;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures and provide adequate support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime so as to enable it to promote the speedy entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

23. *Encourages* States to make adequate and regular voluntary contributions for the entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, through the United Nations funding mechanism specifically designed for that purpose in that Convention or in direct support of implementation activities and initiatives;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session.

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International drug control

Afghanistan, Argentina, Cape Verde, Colombia, El Salvador, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Panama, Russian Federation, South Africa, Turkey and Uruguay: draft resolution

International cooperation against the world drug problem

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] resolution 57/174 of 18 December 2002 and its other previous resolutions,

Reaffirming its commitment to the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly,[2] devoted to countering the world drug problem together, held in New York from 8 to 10 June 1998, and welcoming the continuing determination of Governments to overcome the world drug problem by a full and balanced application of national, regional and international strategies to reduce the demand for, production of and trafficking in illicit drugs,

Reaffirming also the importance of the commitments of Member States in meeting the objectives targeted for 2003 and 2008, as set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at the twentieth special session, and welcoming the guidelines and elements recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme for the preparation of subsequent reports on the follow-up to the twentieth special session,[3]

Emphasizing the importance of the Action Plan[4] for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction,[5] which

[1] See resolution 55/2.
[2] Resolution S-20/2, annex.
[3] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 8* (E/1999/28/Rev.1), part two, chap. I, resolution 42/11, annex; and ibid., *2001, Supplement No. 8* (E/2001/28/Rev.1), chap. I, sect. C, resolution 44/2.
[4] Resolution 54/132, annex.
[5] Resolution S-20/3, annex.

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introduces a new global approach balanced between illicit supply and demand reduction, under the principle of shared responsibility, and of the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development,[6] which recognizes the importance of supply reduction as an integral part of a balanced drug control strategy,

Recognizing the efforts of all countries, in particular those that produce narcotic drugs for scientific and medical purposes, and of the International Narcotics Control Board in preventing the diversion of such substances to illicit markets and in maintaining production at a level consistent with licit demand, in line with the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961[7] and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[8]

Aware that progress has been uneven in meeting the goals set in the Political Declaration, as also reflected in the biennial reports[9] of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,[10] and recognizing that the drug problem is still a global challenge that constitutes a serious threat to public health and safety and the well-being of humankind, in particular children and young people, and that it undermines socio-economic and political stability and sustainable development, including efforts to reduce poverty, and causes violence and crime, including in urban areas,

Deeply concerned by the serious challenges and threats posed by the continuing links between illicit drug trafficking and terrorism and other national and transnational criminal activities, such as trafficking in human beings, especially women and children, money-laundering, corruption and trafficking in arms and chemical precursors, and reaffirming that strong and effective international cooperation is needed to counter these threats,

Gravely concerned about policies and activities in favour of the legalization of illicit narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances that are not in accordance with the international drug control treaties and that might jeopardize the international drug control regime,

Acknowledging that international cooperation in countering drug abuse and illicit production and trafficking has shown that positive results can be achieved through sustained and collective efforts, and expressing its appreciation for the holding in Paris, on 21 and 22 May 2003, of the International Conference on Drug Routes from Central Asia to Europe, as well as other initiatives,

Welcoming the holding of the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in Vienna on 16 and 17 April 2003,

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[6] Resolution S-20/4 E.

[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.

[8] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

[9] E/CN.7/2001/2 and Add.1-3, E/CN.7/2001/16 and E/CN.7/2003/2 and Add.1-6.

[10] Formerly known as the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention.

I

Respect for the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and international law in countering the world drug problem

1. *Reaffirms* that countering the world drug problem is a common and shared responsibility that must be addressed in a multilateral setting, requires an integrated and balanced approach, and must be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, and in particular with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and on the basis of the principles of equal rights and mutual respect;

2. *Urges* all States to ratify or accede to and implement all the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[11] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[8] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;[12]

II

International cooperation to counter the world drug problem and follow-up of the twentieth special session

1. *Reaffirms* the Joint Ministerial Statement and further measures to implement the action plans emanating from the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, adopted during the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,[13] which emphasizes that the world drug problem must be addressed in multilateral, regional, bilateral and national settings and that, in order to succeed, action to counter it has to involve all Member States, that action must be supported by strong international development cooperation and must be further included in national development priorities, and that it requires a balance between supply reduction and demand reduction, as well as a comprehensive strategy that combines alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, eradication, interdiction, law enforcement, prevention, treatment and rehabilitation as well as education;

2. *Calls upon* all relevant actors to continue their close cooperation with Governments in promoting and implementing the outcome of the twentieth special session[2] and of the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

3. *Stresses* that, in order to be able to further develop sound, evidence-based drug control policies, data collection and analysis and evaluation of the results of ongoing policies are essential tools;

4. *Urges* all Member States to implement the Action Plan[4] for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction[5] and to strengthen their national efforts to counter the abuse of illicit

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[11] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

[12] See *Official Records of the United Nations Conference for the Adoption of a Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, Vienna, 25 November-20 December 1988*, vol. I (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.XI.5).

[13] A/58/124, sect. II.A.

drugs among their population, in particular among children and young people, noting with concern the increasing levels of drug abuse among them;

5. *Urges* States, in order to achieve a significant and measurable reduction of drug abuse by 2008:

(a) To further implement comprehensive demand reduction policies and programmes, including research, covering all drugs under international control, in order to raise public awareness of the drug problem, paying special attention to prevention and education and providing, especially to young people and others at risk, information on developing life skills, making healthy choices and engaging in drug-free activities;

(b) To further develop and implement comprehensive demand reduction policies, including risk reduction activities, that are in line with sound medical practice and the international drug control treaties and that reduce the adverse health and social consequences of drug abuse, and to provide a wide range of comprehensive services for the treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration of drug abusers, with appropriate resources being devoted to such services, since social exclusion constitutes an important risk factor for drug abuse;

(c) To enhance early intervention programmes that dissuade children and young people from the use of illicit drugs, including polydrug use and the recreational use of substances such as cannabis and synthetic drugs, especially amphetamine-type stimulants, and encourage the active participation of the younger generation in campaigns against drug abuse;

(d) To provide a comprehensive range of services for preventing the transmission of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases associated with drug abuse, including education, counselling and drug abuse treatment, and in particular assist developing countries in their efforts to deal with these issues;

6. *Urges* States to renew their efforts, at the national, regional and international levels, to implement the comprehensive measures covered in the Action Plan against Illicit Manufacture, Trafficking and Abuse of Amphetamine-type Stimulants and Their Precursors,[14] to make special efforts to counter the abuse and recreational use of amphetamine-type stimulants, especially by young people, and to disseminate information on the adverse health, social and economic consequences of such abuse;

7. *Encourages* States:

(a) To establish or strengthen mechanisms for making the most effective use of existing systems and for ensuring strict control of chemical precursors used to manufacture illicit drugs;

(b) To support international operations aimed at preventing the diversion of chemical precursors used in the illicit manufacture of cocaine, heroin and amphetamine-type stimulants, by exchanging information with other States and conducting timely joint law enforcement operations, including the use of controlled deliveries;

[14] See resolution S-20/4 A.

(c) To further international cooperation in the implementation of article 12, on control of precursors, of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, in close cooperation with the International Narcotics Control Board, and the measures agreed upon at the twentieth special session;

8. *Calls upon* all States to strengthen international cooperation among judicial and law enforcement authorities at all levels in order to prevent and combat illicit drug trafficking and to share and promote best operational practices in order to interdict illicit drug trafficking, including by establishing and strengthening regional mechanisms, providing technical assistance and establishing effective methods for cooperation, in particular in the areas of air, maritime and port control;

9. *Urges* States to strengthen action, in particular international cooperation and technical assistance aimed at preventing and combating the laundering of proceeds derived from drug trafficking and related criminal activities, with the support of the United Nations system, international institutions such as the World Bank and regional development banks, to develop and strengthen comprehensive international regimes to combat money-laundering, and to improve information-sharing among financial institutions and agencies in charge of preventing and detecting the laundering of those proceeds;

10. *Calls upon* States to consider including provisions in their national drug control plans for the establishment of national networks to enhance their respective capabilities to prevent, monitor, control and suppress serious offences connected with money-laundering and the financing of terrorist acts, and in general to counter all transnational organized criminal acts, and to supplement existing regional and international networks dealing with money-laundering;

11. *Calls upon* States, where appropriate:

(a) To enhance support, including, where appropriate, through the provision of new and additional financial resources, for alternative development and elimination programmes undertaken by countries affected by the illicit cultivation of cannabis, especially in Africa, of opium poppy and of coca bush, in particular national programmes that seek to reduce social marginalization and promote sustainable economic development;

(b) To enhance joint strategies, through international and regional cooperation, to strengthen, including by training and education, alternative development, eradication and interdiction capacity, with the aim of eliminating illicit crop cultivation;

(c) To encourage international cooperation, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, to prevent illicit crop cultivation from emerging in or being relocated to other areas;

(d) To provide, in accordance with the principle of shared responsibility, greater access to their markets for products of alternative development programmes, which are necessary for the creation of employment and the eradication of poverty;

(e) To establish or reinforce, where appropriate, national mechanisms to monitor and verify illicit crops;

(f) To continue to contribute to the maintenance of a balance between the licit supply of and demand for opiate raw materials used for medical and scientific purposes and to cooperate in preventing the proliferation of sources of production of opiate raw materials;

12. *Recommends* that adequate help be provided to Afghanistan in the framework of the comprehensive international strategy, including the strengthening of "security belts" in the region, carried out under the auspices of the United Nations and through other multilateral forums, and reaffirms that the response to this unique situation will not detract from the commitments and resources devoted to the fight against drugs in other parts of the world;

III
Action by the United Nations system

1. *Emphasizes* that the multidimensional nature of the world drug problem calls for the promotion of integration and coordination of drug control activities throughout the United Nations system, including in the follow-up to major United Nations conferences, as well as other relevant multilateral institutions and organizations;

2. *Reaffirms its resolve* to continue to strengthen the United Nations machinery for international drug control, in particular the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the International Narcotics Control Board, in order to enable them to fulfil their mandates, bearing in mind the recommendations contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/30 of 28 July 1999 and the measures taken and recommendations adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-fourth and forty-fifth sessions, aimed at the enhancement of its functioning, in particular in its resolutions 44/16 of 29 March 2001,[15] 45/17 of 15 March 2002[16] and 46/8 of 15 April 2003;[17]

3. *Encourages* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the global coordinating body in international drug control and as the governing body of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, and the International Narcotics Control Board to continue their useful work on the control of precursors and other chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

4. *Notes* that the International Narcotics Control Board needs sufficient resources to carry out all its mandates, and therefore urges Member States to commit themselves in a common effort to assigning adequate and sufficient budgetary resources to the Board, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/20 of 23 July 1996, and emphasizes the need to maintain its capacity, inter alia, through the provision of appropriate means by the Secretary-General and adequate technical support by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, and calls for enhanced cooperation and understanding between Member

[15] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 8* (E/2001/28/Rev.1), chap. I, sect. C.

[16] Ibid., *2002, Supplement No. 8* and corrigenda (E/2002/28 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. I, sect. C.

[17] Ibid., *2003, Supplement No. 8* (E/2003/28), chap. I, sect. C.

States and the Board in order to enable it to implement all its mandates under the international drug control conventions;

5. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to implement its mandate, and requests the Programme to continue:

(a) To strengthen dialogue with Member States and also to ensure continued improvement in management, so as to contribute to enhanced and sustainable programme delivery and further encourage the Executive Director to maximize the effectiveness of the Programme, inter alia, through the full implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 44/16 and 45/17, in particular the recommendations contained therein;

(b) To strengthen cooperation with Member States and with United Nations programmes, funds and relevant agencies, as well as relevant regional organizations and agencies and non-governmental organizations, and to provide, on request, assistance in implementing the outcome of the twentieth special session;

(c) To increase its assistance, within the available voluntary resources, to countries that are deploying efforts to reduce illicit crop cultivation by, in particular, adopting alternative development programmes, and to explore new and innovative funding mechanisms;

(d) To allocate, while keeping the balance between supply and demand reduction programmes, adequate resources to allow it to fulfil its role in the implementation of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, and support countries, upon their request, to further develop and implement drug demand reduction policies;

(e) To strengthen dialogue and cooperation with multilateral development banks and with international financial institutions so that they may undertake lending and programming activities related to drug control in interested and affected countries to implement the outcome of the special session, and to keep the Commission on Narcotic Drugs informed of further progress made in this area;

(f) To take into account the outcome of the special session, to include in its report on the illicit traffic in drugs an updated, objective and comprehensive assessment of worldwide trends in illicit traffic and transit in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including methods and routes used, and to recommend ways and means of improving the capacity of States along those routes to address all aspects of the drug problem;

(g) To publish the *World Drug Report*, with comprehensive and balanced information about the world drug problem, and to seek additional extrabudgetary resources for its publication in all the official languages;

(h) To provide technical assistance, from available voluntary contributions for that purpose, to those States identified by relevant international bodies as the most affected by the transit of drugs, in particular developing countries in need of such assistance and support;

(i) To develop action-oriented strategies to assist Member States to implement the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration, and to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-seventh session on the follow-up to the Action Plan;

(j) To provide assistance, at the request of States and respecting fully their sovereign and territorial integrity, and with the support of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs and the European Space Agency, among others, in detecting on time the emergence or relocation of illicit crop cultivation;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of resources and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs guidelines for the use of general-purpose funds, together with international financial institutions and the organizations involved in preventing and suppressing money-laundering and drug trafficking, to facilitate the provision of training and advice through technical cooperation in States, when requested, taking into account, inter alia, the recommendations on money-laundering and the financing of terrorism formulated by the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering and its regional groups;

7. *Urges* all Governments to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the United Nations International Drug Control Programme by widening its donor base and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general-purpose contributions, to enable it to continue, expand and strengthen its operational and technical cooperation activities, and recommends that a sufficient share of the regular budget of the United Nations be allocated to the Programme to enable it to fulfil its mandates and to work towards securing assured and predictable funding;

8. *Encourages* the meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies and of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to continue to contribute to the strengthening of regional and international cooperation, taking into account the outcome of the special session and the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

9. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations agencies and entities, other international organizations and international financial institutions, including regional development banks, to mainstream drug control issues into their programmes;

10. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General,[18] and, taking into account the promotion of integrated reporting, requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[18] A/58/124 and A/58/253.

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Crime prevention and criminal justice

United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.13

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. Under paragraph 10 of draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.13, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to make concrete proposals, including the provision of additional core professional staff, to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Institute and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the resolution.

2. While paragraph 10 may eventually involve a requirement for additional expenditures following action on the requested report at the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly, the adoption of draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.13 at this stage would have no immediate programme budget implications.

3. The attention of the Committee is drawn to the provisions of section VI of General Assembly resolution 45/248 B of 21 December 1990, in which the Assembly reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee was the appropriate Main Committee of the Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters; and reaffirmed also the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. Under the circumstances, consideration by the Third Committee of paragraph 10 of draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.13 may be considered to be in contravention of resolution 45/248 B.

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Advancement of women

United States of America: draft resolution

Women and political participation

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the obligations of all States to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms for all as stated in the Charter of the United Nations as well as other relevant international instruments,

Reaffirming also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] which states that everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country and the right of equal access to public service,

Recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[2] which states, inter alia, that every citizen shall have the right and opportunity to take part in the conduct of public affairs, directly or through freely chosen representatives, to vote and to be elected at genuine periodic elections and to have access, on general terms of equality, to public service in his country,

Recalling the Convention on the Political Rights of Women,[3] which states that women shall be, on equal terms with men and without any discrimination, entitled to vote in all elections, eligible for election to all publicly elected bodies established by national law and entitled to hold public office and to exercise all public functions established by national law,

Recalling the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[4] which states, inter alia, that States parties to the Convention shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in the political and public life of the country,

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).
[2] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[3] Resolution 640 (VII).
[4] Resolution 34/180, annex.

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Recalling also the Beijing Declaration[5] and Platform for Action,[6] the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[7] and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[8] and the agreed conclusions 1997/2 of the Commission on the Status of Women on women in power and decision-making,[9]

Affirming that the empowerment and autonomous decision-making of women and their equal political, social and economic status is essential to the achievement of representative, transparent and accountable government, democratic institutions and sustainable development in all areas of life,

Affirming also that the active participation of women, on equal terms with men, at all levels of decision-making is an important factor to the achievement of equality, sustainable development, peace and democracy,

Concerned that despite general acceptance of the need for gender balance in decision-making bodies at all levels, women are still largely underrepresented at most levels of government, especially ministerial and other executive bodies, and have made little progress in increasing their representation in legislative bodies,

Recognizing that women have demonstrated considerable leadership in community and informal organizations, as well as in public office,

Recognizing also that the full and equal participation of women in the political process and decision-making will provide a balance that more accurately reflects the composition of society, is needed to strengthen democracy and promote its proper functioning, plays a pivotal role in furthering women's equal status, including improving women's socio-economic status, and contributes to redefining political priorities and providing new perspectives on political issues,

Recognizing further that the participation of women in decision-making and in political, civil, economic, social and cultural life is negatively affected by poverty, which disproportionately affects women, particularly in developing countries,

Reaffirming the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace-building, and stressing the importance of their full and equal participation in all efforts to maintain and promote peace and security and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention, resolution and rebuilding of post-conflict society, as stated by the Security Council in its resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000,

Recognizing the importance of education and training from an early age in government, public policy, economics, civics, information technology and science to ensure that women develop the knowledge, skills, confidence and ethical values needed to participate fully in society and the political process,

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[5] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[6] Ibid., annex II.

[7] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

[8] Resolution 55/2.

[9] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 7* (E/1997/27), chap. I, sect. C.1.

1. *Urges* States:

(a) To promote and protect the right of women to associate freely, express their views publicly, openly debate political policy and petition and participate in their Government at all levels, including in the formulation and implementation of government policy, on equal terms with men;

(b) To ensure equal access to education, property rights and inheritance rights, and to promote equal access to information technology and business and economic opportunities, including in international trade, in order to provide women with the tools that enable them to take part fully and equally in decision-making processes at all levels;

(c) To eliminate laws, regulations and practices that in a discriminatory manner prevent or restrict women from participating in the political process, and to adopt positive practical measures that would accelerate the achievement of equality between men and women;

(d) To counter, as appropriate, negative societal attitudes about the capacity of women to participate equally in the political process that contribute to the low proportion of women among political decision makers at the local, national and international levels;

(e) To promote the goal of gender balance in all public positions, and to take all appropriate measures to encourage political parties to ensure that women have a fair and equal opportunity to compete for all elective and non-elective public positions;

(f) To review the differential impact of their electoral systems on the political representation of women in elected bodies and to adjust or reform those systems where appropriate;

(g) To institute educational programmes, as appropriate, in the school curriculum that sensitize young people about the equal rights of women, teach civic responsibilities, promote confidence-building and counter negative societal attitudes that discourage women's political participation;

(h) To monitor progress in the representation of women through the regular collection, analysis and dissemination of data on the political participation of women and men at all levels and the progress of political parties in providing equal and fair opportunities for women to participate;

(i) To identify and propose more women candidates for senior and decision-making positions in the United Nations system and for appointment or election to intergovernmental expert and treaty bodies, and to encourage more women to apply for those positions;

(j) To promote gender balance for their delegations to United Nations and other conferences as well as all United Nations and international bodies;

(k) To encourage greater involvement of indigenous and other marginalized women in decision-making at all levels, and to address and counter the barriers faced by marginalized women in accessing and participating in politics and decision-making;

(l) To recognize that work and family responsibilities may hinder political participation, and to consider appropriate measures to reconcile work and family life;

2. *Invites* Governments, as well as the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other civil society actors:

(a) To develop mechanisms and training programmes that encourage women to participate in the electoral process and improve women's capacity to cast informed votes in free and fair elections;

(b) To encourage political parties to remove all barriers that directly or indirectly discriminate against the participation of women, in order to ensure that women have the right to participate fully at all levels of decision-making in all internal policy-making structures and nominating processes and in the leadership of political parties on equal terms with men;

(c) To encourage political parties actively to seek qualified women candidates, to provide training in conducting campaigns, public speaking, fund-raising and parliamentary procedures and to include qualified women and men on their party lists for elective office, where such lists exist;

(d) To strive to ensure that information about candidates, political party platforms, voting procedures, including voter registration, and electoral law is available to women on an equal basis with men;

(e) To support initiatives, including public-private partnerships and exchange programmes, to expand women's political skills, which include imparting or enhancing skills on how to vote, advocate, manage and govern, run for public office and serve as elected and appointed officials;

(f) To promote the participation of young people, especially women, in civil society organizations to enable them to acquire experience, skills and capacities that are transferable to the field of political participation;

(g) To encourage the establishment of, and support of existing, non-governmental organizations that provide training in leadership, decision-making, public speaking skills, use of information and communications technologies, confidence-building and political campaigning;

(h) To intensify efforts to increase the number of women in public bodies, including through research into barriers to women's access to high-level public appointments;

(i) To promote recruitment and career-development programmes that provide women with equal access to managerial, entrepreneurial, technical and leadership training, in order better to enable them to assume legislative, judicial and executive positions in government;

(j) To continue to study links between poverty eradication, empowerment and women's political participation and compile and widely disseminate good practices and lessons learned;

(k) To promote equal opportunities for women to gain appointment to advisory and decision-making bodies and promotion to senior positions through,

inter alia, reviewing the criteria for recruitment, appointment and promotion, to ensure that such criteria are relevant to and do not discriminate against women;

(l) To develop programmes to train women in using the media and information and communications technologies, in order to obtain and impart information, be informed voters, network, communicate to potential voters and raise campaign funds;

(m) To encourage the media to recognize the importance of the participation of women in the political process, provide fair and balanced coverage of male and female candidates, cover participation in women's political organizatic ns and address issues of concern to women;

3. *Urges* States and the United Nations system to increase participation of women at decision-making levels in conflict resolution and peace processes;

4. *Invites* non-governmental organizations and other actors of civil society:

(a) To advocate at all levels to enable women to influence political, economic and social decisions, process and system, to build and strengthen networks among women through information, education and sensitization activities, to increase coordination among non-governmental organizations and to establish, consistent with data protection legislation, databases on women and their qualification for dissemination to Governments, regional and international organizations and other relevant bodies;

(b) To increase coordination and cooperation in supporting women and to continue to present women's concerns and experiences to Governments, placing women's issues on the national, regional and international agendas;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in his report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its fiftieth session, to include information on the implementation of the present resolution, bearing in mind that in 2006 the Commission will consider the item entitled "Equal participation of women and men in decision-making processes at all levels".

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Agenda item 110
Advancement of women

Argentina, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, Indonesia, Mexico, Philippines and Sri Lanka: draft resolution

Violence against women migrant workers

The General Assembly,

Recalling all of its previous resolutions on violence against women migrant workers and those adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[1]

Reaffirming the outcome of the World Conference on Human Rights,[2] the International Conference on Population and Development,[3] the Fourth World Conference on Women[4] and the World Summit for Social Development[5] and their five-year reviews, specifically as the results pertain to women migrant workers,

Noting the various activities initiated by entities in the United Nations system, such as the expert group meeting organized by the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the International Organization for Migration, held at Geneva in August 1999, the international workshop on best practices concerning migrant workers and their families initiated by the International Organization for Migration, held at Santiago in June 2000, and the seminar on women immigrants organized by the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the Argentine National Institute against Discrimination,

[1] See resolution 48/104.
[2] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.
[3] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.
[4] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.
[5] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

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Xenophobia and Racism, held at Buenos Aires in July 2001, as well as other activities that continue to assess and alleviate the plight of women migrant workers,

Emphasizing the need for objective, comprehensive, broad-based information, possibly including a database for research and analysis, and a wide exchange of experience and lessons learned by individual Member States and civil society in the formulation of policies and concrete strategies to address the problem of violence against women migrant workers,

Encouraging the continuing participation of civil society in developing and implementing appropriate measures to support innovative partnerships among public agencies, non-governmental organizations and other members of civil society for combating violence against women migrant workers,

Noting the large numbers of women from developing countries and some countries with economies in transition who continue to venture forth to more affluent countries in search of a living for themselves and their families as a consequence of poverty, unemployment and other socio-economic conditions, and acknowledging the duty of the countries of origin to try to create conditions that provide employment and economic security for their citizens,

Expressing deep concern at the continuing reports of grave abuses and acts of violence committed against women migrant workers,

Realizing that the movement of a significant number of women migrant workers may be facilitated and made possible by means of fraudulent or irregular documentation and sham marriages with the object of migration, that this may be facilitated through, among others, the Internet, and that these women migrant workers are more vulnerable to abuse and exploitation,

Acknowledging the economic benefits that accrue to both the country of origin and the country of destination from the employment of women migrant workers,

Recognizing the importance of joint and collaborative approaches and strategies at the bilateral, regional, interregional and international levels in protecting and promoting the rights and welfare of women migrant workers,

Recognizing also the importance of exploring the link between migration and trafficking,

Encouraged by some measures adopted by some countries of destination to alleviate the plight of women migrant workers residing in their areas of jurisdiction,

Underlining the important role of relevant United Nations treaty bodies in monitoring the implementation of human rights conventions and the relevant special procedures, within their respective mandates, in addressing the problem of violence against women migrant workers and in protecting and promoting their rights and welfare,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[6]

2. *Also takes note* of the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the human rights of migrants[7] and of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its

[6] A/58/161.

[7] E/CN.4/2003/85.

causes and consequences,[8] with regard to violence against women migrant workers, and encourages them to continue to address the issue of violence against women migrant workers and their human rights, in particular the problem of gender-based violence and of discrimination, and trafficking in women;

3. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the entry into force of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families on 1 July 2003;

4. *Requests* all Governments to continue to cooperate fully with both Special Rapporteurs in the performance of their tasks and mandated duties and to furnish all information requested, including by reacting promptly to the urgent appeals of the Special Rapporteurs;

5. *Encourages* Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, to make available to the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants information on violence against women migrant workers, with a view to requesting the Special Rapporteur to recommend concrete measures and actions to address the problem;

6. *Also encourages* Governments to give serious consideration to inviting the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries so as to enable her to fulfil the mandate effectively;

7. *Urges* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, to strengthen further their national efforts to protect and promote the rights and welfare of women migrant workers, including through sustained bilateral, regional, interregional and international cooperation, by developing strategies and joint action and taking into account the innovative approaches and experiences of individual Member States, and to establish and maintain continuing dialogues to facilitate the exchange of information;

8. *Also urges* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, to support and allocate appropriate resources for programmes aimed at strengthening preventive action, in particular information for target groups, education and campaigns to increase public awareness of this issue at the national and grass-roots levels, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the adoption by Member States, including countries of origin, transit and destination, of measures to inform women migrant workers of their rights and the benefits to which they are entitled, and encourages other Member States to adopt appropriate measures in this regard;

10. *Calls upon* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, if they have not done so, to put in place penal and criminal sanctions to punish perpetrators of violence against women migrant workers and, to the extent possible, to provide, and to encourage non-governmental organizations to provide, victims of violence with the full range of immediate assistance and protection, such as counselling, legal and consular assistance, temporary shelter and other measures that will allow them to be present during the judicial process, as well as to establish reintegration and rehabilitation schemes for returning women migrant workers to their countries of origin;

[8] E/CN.4/2003/75/Add.1.

11. *Encourages* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, to support and, if they have not done so, to formulate and implement training programmes for their law enforcers, prosecutors and service providers with a view to instilling among those public sector workers the necessary skills and attitude to ensure the delivery of proper and professional interventions for women migrant workers who are subjected to abuse and violence;

12. *Also encourages* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin and destination, to adopt measures or strengthen existing ones to regulate the recruitment and deployment of women migrant workers, and to consider the adoption of appropriate legal measures against intermediaries who deliberately encourage the clandestine movement of workers and who exploit women migrant workers;

13. *Invites* Governments to identify the causes of undocumented migration and its economic, social and demographic impact, as well as its implications for the formulation and application of social, economic and migration policies, including those relating to women migrant workers;

14. *Encourages* concerned Governments, in particular those of the countries of origin, transit and destination, to avail themselves of the expertise of the United Nations, including the Statistics Division of the Secretariat and other relevant bodies, such as the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, to develop appropriate national data-collection methodologies that will generate comparable data on violence against women migrant workers as bases for research and analyses of the subject;

15. *Encourages* Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to relevant International Labour Organization conventions and to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, as well as the Slavery Convention of 1926;

16. *Welcomes* the adoption by the General Assembly of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and encourages Governments to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Protocols;

17. *Encourages* the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to consider developing a general recommendation on the situation of women migrant workers;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session a report on the problem of violence against women migrant workers and on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account updated information from the organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, as well as the International Organization for Migration and other relevant sources, including non-governmental organizations.

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Agenda item 110
Advancement of women

Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Barbados, Belgium, Canada, Cape Verde, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Liechtenstein, Mauritius, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, San Marino, Senegal, Slovenia, Swaziland, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United Republic of Tanzania: draft resolution

Improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Recalling Articles 1 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as Article 8, which provides that the United Nations shall place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs,

Recalling also the goal, contained in the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[1] of achieving overall gender equality, particularly at the Professional level and above, by 2000 and the further actions and initiatives set out in the outcome document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-third special session, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[2]

Recalling further its resolution 57/180 of 18 December 2002, as well as its resolution 57/305 of 15 April 2003, in particular, section II, paragraphs 39, 40 and 41, in which it reaffirmed the goal of 50/50 gender distribution by 2000 in all categories of posts within the United Nations system, especially at the D-1 level and above, strongly encouraged Member States to support these efforts by identifying and regularly presenting more women candidates and requested the Secretary-General to undertake a comprehensive review of progress made towards the goal of

[1] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

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50/50 gender representation, particularly in offices in which women are underrepresented, and to present it to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2003/44 of 23 April 2003[3] on integrating the human rights of women throughout the United Nations system, in particular its paragraph 15, in which the Commission recognized that gender mainstreaming would strongly benefit from the enhanced and full participation of women, including at the higher levels of decision-making within the United Nations system,

Taking into account the continuing lack of representation or underrepresentation of women from certain countries, in particular from developing countries, including least developed countries and small island developing States, and from countries with economies in transition,

Noting with appreciation the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts, the Office of Human Resources Management, the Department of Public Information, the Department of Management/Office of the Under-Secretary-General and the Executive Office of the Secretary-General of the Secretariat and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, which have achieved or continue to maintain the goal of gender balance, as well as those departments and offices that have met or exceeded the goal of 50 per cent in the selection of women candidates for vacant posts in the past year,[4]

Expressing concern that for the second consecutive year there was a slowing of progress towards achieving the target of 50/50 gender balance, below the average increase of 1 percentage point per year achieved in previous years,[5]

Welcoming the increase in the number of women at the Under-Secretary-General, Assistant Secretary-General, D-1 and D-2 levels between 1998 and 2003, but expressing particular concern at the decline or stagnation in the number of women at the P-4 and P-5 levels,[6]

Expressing concern that between 1998 and 2003 there has been almost no progress in the rate of representation of women in appointments of one year or more at the Professional and higher levels,[7]

Also expressing concern that there is still only one special representative of the Secretary-General who is a woman,[8]

Welcoming the commitment of the Secretary-General to set concrete targets for the appointment of women as his special representatives and special envoys in order to reach the target of 50/50 gender balance by 2015,[9]

Welcoming also the new flexible working arrangements authorized in all departments and offices of the United Nations Secretariat,[10]

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[3] See E/2003/23 (Part I), chap. II.
[4] A/58/374, paras. 10, 43 and 74.
[5] Ibid., para. 74.
[6] Ibid., paras. 40-42.
[7] Ibid., paras. 31 and 38.
[8] Ibid., para. 20.
[9] S/2002/1154, para. 44.
[10] ST/SGB/2003/4 and A/58/374, para. 59.

Noting with concern that the statistics on the representation of women in some organizations of the United Nations system are not fully up to date,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General and the actions described therein;[11]

2. *Regrets* that the goal of 50/50 gender distribution was not met by the end of 2000, and urges the Secretary-General to redouble his efforts to realize significant progress towards this goal in the near future;

3. *Reaffirms* the urgent goal of achieving 50/50 gender distribution in all categories of posts within the United Nations system, especially at senior and policy-making levels, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, and also taking into account the continuing lack of representation or underrepresentation of women from certain countries, in particular from developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

4. *Expresses concern* that in three departments and offices of the Secretariat women still account for less than 30 per cent of staff and that in three organizations of the United Nations system women still account for less than 20 per cent of staff, and encourages the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to meet the goal of gender balance within the United Nations system;[12]

5. *Welcomes*:

(a) The ongoing personal commitment of the Secretary-General to meeting the goal of gender equality and his assurance that gender balance will be given the highest priority in his continuing efforts to bring about a new management culture in the Organization;

(b) The pledge of the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system to intensify their efforts to meet the gender equality goals set out in the Beijing Declaration,[13] and the Platform for Action;[1]

(c) The inclusion of the objective of improving gender balance in action plans on human resources management for individual departments and offices, and encourages further cooperation, including the sharing of best-practice initiatives, between heads of departments and offices, the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and the Office of Human Resources Management of the Secretariat in the implementation of those plans, which include specific targets and strategies for improving the representation of women in individual departments and offices;

(d) The decision, within the context of the new staff selection system,[14] to hold heads of departments and offices accountable for meeting the gender targets in departmental human resource action plans through their performance compacts;

(e) The continuing designation of focal points for women in the United Nations system, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that focal points are

[11] A/58/374.

[12] A/58/374, paras. 11 and 44.

[13] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[14] See ST/AI/2002/4.

designated at a sufficiently high level and enjoy full access to senior management, both at Headquarters and in the field;

(f) The continued provision of specific training programmes on gender mainstreaming and gender issues in the workplace, tailored to meet the special needs of individual departments, commends those heads of departments and offices who have launched gender training for their managers and staff, and strongly encourages those who have not yet organized such training to do so as soon as possible;

(g) The formulation by the Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management of a project to strengthen the Secretary-General's efforts to achieve gender balance by adopting a more coordinated and integrated approach to this issue, with the purpose of setting and achieving verifiable goals to ensure that gender balance targets are attained by 2006;[15]

(h) The preparation of an analysis by the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, to be presented to the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly, of the probable causes of the slow advancement in the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system, with a view to elaborating new strategies for achieving gender parity;[16]

(i) The commitment of the Office of Human Resources Management and the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women to explore ways to better integrate the departmental focal points in the new staffing system, so that the focal points can continue to play an important role for the periodic and systematic monitoring of the recruitment, retention and career advancement of women, and looks forward to information on this matter in the next report;[17]

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in order to achieve and maintain the goal of 50/50 gender distribution with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter:

(a) To continue to develop innovative recruitment strategies to identify and attract suitably qualified women candidates, particularly from and in developing countries and countries with economies in transition and other Member States that are unrepresented or underrepresented in the Secretariat, and in occupations in which women are underrepresented;

(b) To encourage the United Nations system and its agencies and departments to make more effective use of existing information technology resources and systems and other established methods to disseminate information about employment opportunities for women and to better coordinate rosters of potential women candidates;

(c) To continue to monitor closely the progress made by departments and offices in meeting the goal of gender balance, to ensure that the appointment and

[15] A/58/374, para. 48.

[16] Ibid., paras. 56-58 and 75.

[17] Ibid., para. 76.

promotion of suitably qualified women be at least 50 per cent of all appointments and promotions until the goal of 50/50 gender distribution is met;[18]

(d) To strongly encourage heads of departments and offices to continue selecting female candidates when their qualifications are the same as, or better than, those of male candidates, and to effectively encourage, monitor and assess the performance of managers in meeting targets for improving women's representation;

(e) To encourage consultation by heads of departments and offices with departmental focal points on women during the selection process and to ensure that the focal points are designated at a sufficiently high level and enjoy full and effective access to senior management;

(f) To extend ongoing training and sensitization of managers on gender balance issues;[19]

(g) To enable the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women to effectively contribute to, monitor and facilitate the setting and implementation of gender targets in human resource action plans, including by ensuring access to the information required to carry out that work;

(h) To intensify his efforts to create, within existing resources, a gender-sensitive work environment supportive of the needs of his staff, both women and men, including through actively pursuing appropriate work/life policies, such as flexible working time, flexible workplace arrangements, career development, mentoring programmes[20] and childcare and elder-care needs, as well as through the provision of more comprehensive information to prospective candidates and new recruits on employment opportunities for spouses, the provision of support for the activities of women's networks and organizations within the United Nations system and the expansion of gender-sensitivity training in all departments, offices and duty stations, including more information and training of staff and managers on the benefits of the work/life policies on productivity and effectiveness;[21]

(i) To strengthen further the policy against harassment, including sexual harassment, by, inter alia, ensuring the full implementation of the guidelines for its application at Headquarters and in the field, and in this context welcomes the work of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in issuing guidance for field missions on the procedures to be followed for handling disciplinary issues and allegations of serious misconduct involving mission personnel, particularly uniformed personnel,[22] and is encouraged by the agreement in the Staff-Management Coordination Committee that the procedures for dealing with allegations of sexual harassment be reviewed and incorporated within a new administrative instruction covering all forms of harassment;[23]

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[18] Ibid., paras. 21 and 55.
[19] Ibid., para. 75.
[20] Ibid., paras. 42 and 67.
[21] Ibid., para. 78.
[22] Ibid., para. 63.
[23] Ibid., para. 64.

7. *Strongly encourages* the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to appoint more women as special representatives and envoys to pursue good offices on his behalf, especially in matters related to peacekeeping, peace-building, preventive diplomacy and economic and social development, as well as in operational activities, including appointment as resident coordinators, and to appoint more women to other high-level positions in the context of his commitment to set concrete targets for the appointment of women as his special representatives and special envoys in order to reach the target of 50/50 gender balance by 2015;[24]

8. *Encourages* the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to develop common approaches for retaining women, promoting inter-agency mobility and improving career development opportunities;

9. *Encourages* the United Nations and Member States to continue to implement the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", pertaining to the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system;[2]

10. *Strongly encourages* Member States:

(a) To support the efforts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, funds and programmes to achieve the goal of 50/50 gender distribution, especially at senior and policymaking levels, by identifying and regularly submitting more women candidates for appointment to positions in the United Nations system, by identifying and proposing national recruitment sources, including through the establishment of networks with professional organizations,[25] that will assist the organizations of the United Nations system in identifying suitable women candidates, in particular from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, by creating awareness among their nationals, particularly women, of available vacancies throughout the United Nations system,[26] and by encouraging more women to apply for positions within the Secretariat, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes and the regional commissions, including in areas in which women are underrepresented, such as peacekeeping, peace-building and other non-traditional areas;

(b) To identify women candidates for assignment to peacekeeping missions and to improve the representation of women in military and civilian police contingents;

(c) To identify and submit regularly more women candidates for appointment or election to intergovernmental, expert and treaty bodies;

(d) To identify and nominate more women candidates for appointment or election as judges or other senior officials in international courts and tribunals;

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[24] S/2002/1154, para. 44.
[25] A/58/374, para. 80.
[26] Ibid., para. 81.

(e) To cooperate closely with the United Nations to facilitate spouse employment at all the major duty stations of the Secretariat and the organizations of the United Nations system;[27]

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide a verbal update to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-eighth session[28] and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including by providing up-to-date statistics on the number and percentage of women in all organizational units and at all levels throughout the United Nations system, as well as gender-segregated attrition rates for all organizational units and at all levels, as well as on the implementation of departmental human resource action plans, in particular for the achievement of the gender targets;

12. *Requests* the Secretariat and the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, in order to facilitate the preparation of the above-mentioned report, to submit personnel data on all appointments, promotions and mobility as well as to collect and submit data in a timely fashion to measure accurately progress in achieving gender parity for staff.[29]

[27] Ibid., paras. 60 and 81.
[28] E/CN.6/2003/8, paras. 24 and 49.
[29] Ibid., para. 77.

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Advancement of women

Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Venezuela: draft resolution

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/178 of 18 December 2002 and its previous resolutions on the elimination of discrimination against women,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as stated in Articles 1 and 55 of the Charter, is to promote universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of any kind, including distinction as to sex,

Reiterating the need to intensify efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women throughout the world,

Affirming that women and men should participate equally in social, economic and political development, should contribute equally to such development and should share equally in improved conditions of life,

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Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[1] in which the Conference reaffirmed that the human rights of women and the girl child were an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights,

Acknowledging the need for a comprehensive and integrated approach to the promotion and protection of the human rights of women, which includes the integration of the human rights of women into the mainstream of United Nations activities system-wide,

Reaffirming the commitments made in the political declaration[2] and the outcome document[3] of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", in particular paragraphs 68 (*c*) and (*d*) concerning the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[4] and the Optional Protocol thereto,[5]

Recalling that, in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[6] heads of State and Government resolved to implement the Convention,

Recognizing that the equal enjoyment by women of all human rights and fundamental freedoms will promote the realization of the rights of the child, bearing in mind the special needs of girls, and acknowledging the mutual reinforcement of the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child[7] and the Optional Protocols thereto,[8]

Welcoming the progress made in the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, but expressing concern about the remaining challenges,

Welcoming also the growing number of States parties to the Convention, which now stands at one hundred and seventy-four,

Welcoming further the entry into force on 22 December 2000 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Bearing in mind the recommendation of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women that national reports should contain information on the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action,[9] in accordance with paragraph 323 of the Platform,

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[1] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.
[2] Resolution S-23/2, annex.
[3] Resolution S-23/3, annex.
[4] Resolution 34/180, annex.
[5] Resolution 54/4, annex.
[6] See resolution 55/2.
[7] Resolution 44/25, annex.
[8] Resolution 54/263, annexes I and II.
[9] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

Having considered the report of the Committee on its twenty-eighth and twenty-ninth sessions,[10]

Expressing concern at the great number of reports that are overdue and that continue to be overdue, in particular initial reports, which constitutes an obstacle to the full implementation of the Convention,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General[11] on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;[4]

2. *Expresses disappointment* that universal ratification of the Convention was not achieved by 2000, and urges all States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so;

3. *Urges* States parties to fully comply with their obligations under the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto[5] and to take into consideration the concluding comments as well as the general recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women;

4. *Encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their mandates, as well as Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and, in particular, women's organizations, as appropriate, to strengthen assistance to States parties, upon their request, in implementing the Convention;

5. *Welcomes* the rapidly growing number of States parties to the Optional Protocol, which now stands at fifty-six, and urges other States parties to the Convention to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocol;

6. *Notes* the closed meeting held by the Committee with States parties whose reports were more than five years overdue on 16 July 2003;

7. *Takes note with appreciation* of the fact that the Committee has commenced its work under the Optional Protocol;

8. *Notes* that some States parties have modified their reservations, expresses satisfaction that some reservations have been withdrawn, and urges States parties to limit the extent of any reservations that they lodge to the Convention, to formulate any such reservations as precisely and as narrowly as possible, to ensure that no reservations are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention, to review their reservations regularly with a view to withdrawing them and to withdraw reservations that are contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention;

9. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Committee of revised reporting guidelines,[12] and urges States parties to adhere to the revised guidelines, in particular with regard to the content and length of reports;

10. *Recalls* the great number of overdue reports, in particular initial reports, and urges States parties to the Convention to make every possible effort to submit their reports on the implementation of the Convention in a timely manner in accordance with article 18 thereof;

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[10] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/58/38).

[11] A/58/341.

[12] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/57/38), annex.

11. *Encourages* the Secretariat to extend further technical assistance to States parties, upon their request, to strengthen their capacity in the preparation of reports, in particular initial reports, and invites Governments to contribute to these efforts;

12. *Invites* States parties to make use of the technical assistance provided by the Secretariat to facilitate the preparation of reports, in particular initial reports;

13. *Commends* the Committee on its contributions to the effective implementation of the Convention;

14. *Strongly urges* States parties to the Convention to take appropriate measures so that acceptance of the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention by a two-thirds majority of States parties can be reached as soon as possible so that the amendment may enter into force;

15. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made so far by the Committee to improve the efficiency of its working methods, and encourages the Committee to continue its activities in this regard;

16. *Encourages* the continued participation of members of the Committee in inter-committee and chairpersons meetings of the human rights treaty bodies, including those on methods of work relating to the State reporting system;

17. *Encourages* the Committee, within its mandate, to continue to contribute to the efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the treaty bodies;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 54/4 of 6 October 1999, to provide the resources, including staff and facilities, necessary for the effective functioning of the Committee within its full mandate, taking into account in particular the entry into force of the Optional Protocol;

19. *Urges* Governments, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to disseminate the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto;

20. *Encourages* States parties to disseminate the concluding comments adopted in relation to the consideration of their reports as well as the general recommendations of the Committee;

21. *Encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system to continue to build women's knowledge and understanding of and capacity to utilize human rights instruments, in particular the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto;

22. *Urges* the specialized agencies, at the invitation of the Committee, to submit reports on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities;

23. *Welcomes* the contribution of non-governmental organizations to the work of the Committee;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session a report on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the implementation of the present resolution.

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Benin, Cambodia, Cameroon, Colombia, Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guatemala, Mexico, Mongolia, Senegal, Swaziland and United Republic of Tanzania: draft resolution

Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/129 of 19 December 2001,

Recalling also the importance attached to the problems of rural women by the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[1] the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women[2] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[3]

Welcoming the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", namely, the political declaration[4] and further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[5]

Welcoming also the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[6] as well as the Johannesburg Declaration and Plan of

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[1] *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

[2] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[3] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[4] Resolution S-23/2, annex.

[5] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

[6] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

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Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[7] which called upon Governments to mainstream the gender perspective into development at all levels and in all sectors,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[8] in which Member States resolved, inter alia, to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women as effective ways to combat poverty, hunger and disease and to stimulate development that is truly sustainable,

Welcoming the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2003 of the Economic and Social Council, adopted on 2 July 2003,[9] which stressed the need for rural development to become an integral part of national and international development policies and of the United Nations system's activities and programmes, and called for an enhanced role for rural women at all levels of rural development, including decision-making,

Recognizing the critical role and contribution of rural women in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty,

Noting that some effects of globalization may deepen the socio-economic marginalization of rural women,

Noting also that the globalization process has had some benefits by providing opportunities for wage employment for rural women in new sectors,

Mindful of the fact that the available data and existing tools of measurement and analysis are insufficient for a full understanding of the gender implications of the processes of globalization and rural change, and their impact on rural women,

Recognizing the urgent need to take appropriate measures aimed at further improving the situation of women in rural areas,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas;[10]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to seek views of Member States on the desirability of convening a high-level policy consultation at the governmental level with a view to setting priorities and developing critical strategies that would meet the manifold challenges faced by rural women;

3. *Invites* Member States, in collaboration with the United Nations organizations and civil society, as appropriate, to continue their efforts to implement the outcome of and to ensure an integrated and coordinated follow-up to United Nations conferences and summits, including their five-year reviews, and to attach greater importance to the improvement of the situation of rural women in their national, regional and global development strategies by, inter alia:

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[7] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolutions 1 and 2.

[8] See resolution 55/2.

[9] See A/58/3, part I, chap. III.

[10] A/58/167.

(a) Creating an enabling environment for improving the situation of rural women, including integrating a gender perspective in macroeconomic policies and developing appropriate social support systems;

(b) Pursuing the political and socio-economic empowerment of rural women by supporting their full and equal participation in decision-making at all levels, including in rural institutions through, inter alia, the provision of training and capacity-building programmes, including legal literacy;

(c) Integrating a gender perspective into the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of development policies and programmes, including budget policies, paying increased attention to needs of rural women so as to ensure that they benefit from policies and programmes adopted in all spheres and that the disproportionate number of rural women living in poverty is reduced;

(d) Investing in and strengthening efforts to meet the basic needs of rural women through capacity-building and human resources development measures and the provision of a safe and reliable water supply, health services, including family planning services, and nutritional programmes, as well as education and literacy programmes and social support measures;

(e) Designing and implementing policies that promote and protect women's enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and creating an environment that does not tolerate violations of the rights of women and girls;

(f) Developing specific assistance programmes and advisory services to promote economic skills of rural women in banking, modern trading and financial procedures and providing microcredit and other financial and business services to a greater number of women in rural areas for their economic empowerment;

(g) Taking steps towards ensuring that women's unpaid work and contributions to on-farm and off-farm production, including income generated in the informal sector, are visible and assessing the feasibility of developing and improving mechanisms, such as time-use studies, to measure in quantitative terms unpaid work, recognizing the potential for it to be reflected in policy and programme formulation and implementation at national and regional levels;

(h) Designing and revising laws to ensure that, where private ownership of land and property exist, rural women are accorded full and equal rights to own land and other property, including through the right to inheritance, and undertaking administrative reforms and other necessary measures to give women the same right as men to credit, capital, appropriate technologies and access to markets and information;

(i) Promoting programmes to enable rural women and men to reconcile their work and family responsibilities and to encourage men to share equally with women household and child-care responsibilities;

4. *Invites* the Commission on the Status of Women to continue to pay due attention to the situation of rural women in the consideration of the priority themes identified in its multi-year programme of work for the period 2002-2006;

5. *Invites* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system dealing with issues of development to address and support the empowerment of rural women

and their specific needs in their programmes and strategies, including in the context of globalization;

6. *Stresses* the need to identify the best practices for ensuring that rural women have access to and full participation in the area of information and communication technologies, inter alia, through specific studies, and invites the forthcoming World Summit on the Information Society, to be held in Geneva and Tunis, to address the priorities and needs of rural women and ensure their participation in developing and implementing global information and communication technology strategies;

7. *Invites* Member States, the United Nations and the relevant organizations of its system to ensure that the integrated process of follow-up to the major summits and conferences in the economic and social fields, in particular the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the International Conference on Financing for Development, and the 2005 review of the progress achieved in implementing all the commitments made in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[8] the Beijing Platform for Action[2] and the outcome documents of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[4,5] focus explicitly on the situation of rural women and strategies towards its improvement;

8. *Invites also* Member States to use the concluding comments and recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women when formulating policies and designing programmes focused on the improvement of the situation of rural women, including those to be developed and implemented in cooperation with relevant international organizations;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution, with particular emphasis on the impact of macroeconomic policy frameworks on the situation of rural women, and to submit it to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session.

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Austria, Belgium, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, South Africa, Switzerland, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Elimination of all forms of violence against women

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the obligation of all States to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, as stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[1] as well as in other relevant international instruments, and reaffirming also that discrimination on the basis of sex is contrary to the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[2] and other international human rights instruments, and that its elimination is an integral part of efforts towards the elimination of violence against women,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[3] the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[4] the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[5] and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[6] as well as the follow-up action by the Commission on the Status of Women on violence against women and the outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[7]

[1] Resolution 217 A (III).
[2] Resolution 34/180, annex.
[3] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.
[4] See resolution 48/104.
[5] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.
[6] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.
[7] Resolutions S-23/2, annex, and S-23/3, annex.

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Recalling also all its previous resolutions on the elimination of violence against women, including resolutions 57/176 of 18 December 2002 on the trafficking in women and girls, 57/179 of 18 December 2002 on working towards the elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour, 57/181 of 18 December 2002 on the elimination of all forms of violence against women and 56/128 of 19 December 2001 on the traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2003/45 of 23 April 2003 on the elimination of violence against women, as well as all its previous resolutions on this issue,[8]

Bearing in mind that violence against women is a human rights issue,

Recognizing that violence against women is a societal problem based on unequal power relations between women and men,

Recognizing also that both men and women have and should take responsibility for promoting gender equality,

Recognizing further the serious immediate and long-term implications for health, including sexual and reproductive health, as well as psychological, social and economic development, arising from violence against women, that affect individuals, families, communities and States,

Emphasizing that violence against women and girls, including rape, female genital mutilation, incest, early and forced marriage, and violence related to commercial sexual exploitation, including trafficking, as well as economic exploitation and other forms of sexual violence, can increase their vulnerability to human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and aggravate the conditions fostering the spread of HIV/AIDS,

Underlining the importance of the empowerment of women and their effective participation in decision-making and policy-making processes as critical tools to prevent and eliminate violence against women,

1. *Affirms* that the term "violence against women" means any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life;

2. *Welcomes*:

(a) The activities and initiatives of States aimed at the elimination of all forms of violence against women, including legal, educational, economic, social and other measures;

(b) The work of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, and takes note of her report documenting developments in the area of violence against women, 1994-2002;[9]

[8] See E/2003/23 (Part I), chap. II, sect. A.

[9] E/CN.4/2003/75 and Corr.1 and Add.1-4 and Add.2/Corr.1.

(c) The efforts undertaken by United Nations bodies, funds and programmes, to address the issue of violence against women, and encourages them to coordinate their efforts, and, in particular, expresses its appreciation for the initiatives of the United Nations Development Fund for Women to combat violence against women at the international, regional and national levels, as well as the World Report on Violence and Health[10] launched by the World Health Organization in 2002, particularly its consideration of gender-based violence;

(d) The work carried out by civil society, including non-governmental organizations, such as women's organizations and community-based organizations, and individuals, aimed at the elimination of violence against women, inter alia, by raising awareness of all forms of violence against women and their harmful effects and in the provision of support services to women victims of violence;

3. *Stresses* that States have an obligation to exercise due diligence to prevent and investigate all forms of violence against women and to punish the perpetrators thereof and to provide protection to the victims, and also stresses that not to do so violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms;

4. *Also stresses* that all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[7] are obstacles to the advancement and empowerment of women;

5. *Strongly condemns* all forms of violence against women and girls and, in this regard, calls for the elimination of all forms of gender-based violence in the family, within the general community and where perpetrated or condoned by the State;

6. *Stresses* the need to treat all forms of violence against women and girls of all ages as a criminal offence punishable by law, including violence based on all forms of discrimination;

7. *Calls upon* States:

(a) To combat all forms of violence against women through the adoption of a holistic and multidisciplinary approach and to undertake immediate and concrete steps to mainstream a gender perspective into their efforts;

(b) To take all measures to empower women and strengthen their economic independence, inter alia, through equal remuneration for equal work, and increased job opportunities, as well as through equal access to and control over economic resources, including land, credit, microcredit, and traditional saving schemes, such as women's banks and cooperatives, and by ensuring property rights and the right to inheritance with a view to reducing women's vulnerability to all forms of violence, including domestic violence and trafficking;

(c) To take all necessary measures, including legislative, policy and programmatic measures, to promote and protect the full enjoyment of all human rights of women in order to allow women and girls to better protect themselves against violence in both the public and private spheres;

[10] Geneva, World Health Organization, 2002.

(d) To take measures to ensure the protection of women subjected to violence, the access to just and effective remedies including compensation and indemnification and healing of victims, and the rehabilitation of perpetrators;

(e) Not to invoke any custom, tradition or religious consideration to avoid their obligation to eliminate violence against women;

(f) To prevent torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including their gender-based manifestations, and to take effective measures to provide redress to victims;

I
Domestic violence

1. *Recognizes*:

(a) That domestic violence is violence that occurs within the private sphere, generally between individuals who are related through intimacy, blood or law;

(b) That domestic violence is one of the most common, and least visible, forms of violence against women and that its consequences affect many areas of the lives of victims;

(c) That domestic violence can take many different forms including physical, psychological and sexual violence;

(d) That domestic violence is of public concern and requires States to take serious action to protect victims and prevent domestic violence;

(e) That domestic violence can include economic abuse which may cause harm to the safety, health or well-being of women;

2. *Reaffirms* the commitment of States to establish legislation and/or strengthen appropriate mechanisms to handle criminal matters relating to all forms of domestic violence, including marital rape and sexual abuse of women and girls, and ensure that such cases are brought to justice swiftly;

3. *Calls upon* States:

(a) To adopt, strengthen and implement legislation that prohibits domestic violence, prescribes punitive measures and establishes adequate legal protection against domestic violence and to periodically review, evaluate and revise these laws and regulations so as to ensure their effectiveness in eliminating domestic violence;

(b) To make marital rape a criminal offence and to prosecute the perpetrators;

(c) To adopt and/or strengthen policies and legislation in order to strengthen preventive measures, protect the human rights of victims, ensure proper investigation and prosecution of perpetrators, and provide legal and social assistance to victims of domestic violence, as well as adopt policies with regard to the rehabilitation of perpetrators;

(d) To intensify measures aimed at preventing domestic violence against women;

(e) To ensure greater protection for women, inter alia, by means of, where appropriate, orders restraining violent partners from entering the family home, or the

banning of violent partners from contacting the victim, without prejudice to any reconciliation measure;

(f) To provide or facilitate the provision of adequate training, inter alia, gender-awareness training, to all professionals who deal with victims of domestic violence, including police officers, judicial and legal personnel, health personnel, educators, youth workers and social workers;

(g) To provide or facilitate the provision of assistance to victims of domestic violence in lodging police reports and receiving treatment and support, which may include the setting up of one-stop centres, as well as the establishment of safe shelters and centres for victims of domestic violence;

(h) To protect women from further victimization in the process of seeking redress;

(i) To establish and/or strengthen police response protocols and procedures to ensure that all appropriate actions are taken to protect victims of domestic violence and to prevent further acts of domestic violence;

II

Female genital mutilation

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[11]

2. *Also welcomes* initiatives taken by Governments to hold national or regional symposiums or seminars on female genital mutilation, with the aim of disseminating information on the harmful effects of this practice in order to achieve total elimination;

3. *Calls upon* States:

(a) To develop, adopt and implement legislation, policies, plans and programmes that prohibit female genital mutilation, and to prosecute the perpetrators of such practice;

(b) To intensify efforts to raise awareness of and to mobilize international and national public opinion concerning the harmful effects of female genital mutilation, inter alia, by holding national or regional symposiums or seminars followed up by actions, and by involving public opinion leaders, educators, families, religious leaders, chiefs, traditional leaders, medical and traditional practitioners, teachers, women's health and family planning organizations, social workers, childcare agencies, relevant non-governmental organizations, the arts and the media in awareness-raising campaigns, in order to achieve the total elimination of those practices;

(c) To explore, through consultations with communities and religious and cultural groups, their leaders and traditional practitioners, non-harmful alternatives to female genital mutilation, in particular where those practices form part of a ritual ceremony or rite of passage;

(d) To establish or strengthen support services to respond to the needs of victims by, inter alia, developing comprehensive and accessible sexual and reproductive health services;

[11] A/58/169.

(e) To address specifically in the training of health and other relevant personnel traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls, and the increased vulnerability of women and girls to human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and other sexually transmitted infections due to such practices;

(f) To continue to take specific measures to increase the capacity of communities, including immigrant and refugee communities, in which female genital mutilation is practised, to engage in activities aimed at preventing and eliminating such practices;

(g) To support health and education programmes for women and girls and to ensure that women and girls have access to information, including education and information about the harmful effects and risks to health posed by female genital mutilation, the prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted infections, safe motherhood, and the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence, which includes female genital mutilation;

(h) To promote men's understanding, inter alia, through information campaigns, of their roles and responsibilities with regard to promoting the elimination of female genital mutilation;

III
Crimes committed in the name of honour

1. *Expresses its concern* that women continue to be victims of crimes committed in the name of honour, and at the continuing occurrence in all regions of the world of such violence, which takes many different forms, and at the failures to prosecute and punish perpetrators;

2. *Calls upon* all States:

(a) To continue to intensify efforts to prevent and eliminate crimes against women committed in the name of honour, which take many different forms, by using legislative, administrative and programmatic measures;

(b) To investigate promptly and thoroughly, prosecute effectively and document cases of crimes against women committed in the name of honour and to punish the perpetrators;

(c) To take all necessary measures to ensure that such crimes are not tolerated;

(d) To intensify efforts to raise awareness of the need to prevent and eliminate crimes against women committed in the name of honour, with the aim of changing the attitudes and behaviour that allow such crimes to be committed by involving, inter alia, community leaders;

(e) To encourage, support and implement measures and programmes aimed at increasing the knowledge and understanding of the causes and consequences of crimes against women committed in the name of honour, including the provision of training for those responsible for enforcing the law, such as police personnel and judicial and legal personnel, and to strengthen their capacity to respond to complaints of such crimes in an impartial and effective manner and take necessary measures to ensure the protection of actual and potential victims;

(f) To continue to support the work of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in addressing this issue and to strengthen cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

(g) To establish, strengthen or facilitate, where possible, support services to respond to the needs of actual and potential victims by, inter alia, providing for them the appropriate protection, safe shelter, counselling, legal aid, health-care services, rehabilitation and reintegration into society;

(h) To address effectively complaints of crimes against women committed in the name of honour, inter alia, by creating, strengthening or facilitating institutional mechanisms so that victims and others can report such crimes in a safe and confidential environment;

IV
Racially motivated violence

1. *Stresses* that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance reveal themselves in a differentiated manner for women and girls, and can be among the factors leading to a deterioration in their living conditions, poverty, violence, multiple forms of discrimination and the limitation or denial of their human rights, and recognizes the need to integrate a gender perspective into relevant policies, strategies and programmes of action, including effective implementation of national legislation, against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in order to address multiple forms of discrimination against women;

2. *Takes note* of general recommendation XXV of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on gender-related dimensions of racial discrimination;[12]

3. *Expresses its concern*:

(a) That certain forms of racial discrimination may be directed towards women specifically because of their gender;

(b) At the gender-related impediments, such as gender bias in the legal system and discrimination against women in private spheres of life, that may hinder women in accessing remedies and complaint mechanisms for racial discrimination;

4. *Calls upon* States:

(a) To take all necessary measures to address, specifically through policies and programmes, racism and racially motivated violence against women and girls;

(b) To increase and intensify cooperation, policy responses and effective implementation in respect of national legislation and of their obligations under relevant international instruments, and other protective and preventive measures aimed at the elimination of all forms of racially motivated violence against women and girls;

[12] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 18* and addendum (A/55/18 and Add.1), annex V, sect. A.

(c) That are parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[13] to describe, as far as possible in quantitative and qualitative terms, factors affecting and difficulties experienced in ensuring the equal enjoyment by women, free from racial discrimination, of rights under the Convention;

5. *Invites* the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, when examining the forms of racial discrimination, to continue to enhance its efforts to integrate gender perspectives, incorporate gender analysis, and encourage the use of gender-inclusive language in its working methods, including its review of reports submitted by States parties, concluding observations, early warning mechanisms and urgent action procedures, and general recommendations;

V

Early and forced marriages

1. *Reaffirms* that marriage shall be entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses;

2. *Expresses its concern*:

(a) At the practice of early and forced marriages which impair the enjoyment by women and children of their human rights;

(b) That early marriage and early pregnancy can severely curtail educational and employment opportunities and are likely to have a long-term adverse impact on their and their children's economic welfare and development affecting their quality of life;

(c) That early marriage and early pregnancy are significant factors contributing to health-related problems, including sexual and reproductive health;

3. *Welcomes* the valuable work of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in combating early and forced marriages, and takes note in this regard of its general recommendation 21 on equality in marriage and family relations;[14]

4. *Calls upon* States:

(a) To abide by their commitment made at the special session of the General Assembly on children to end the practice of early and forced marriage;

(b) To take legislative action, if they have not done so, to specify a minimum age for marriage;

(c) To consider signing and ratifying the Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages;[15]

(d) To improve access to information on the negative impact of early marriage and early childbearing;

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[13] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[14] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/49/38), chap. I, sect. A.

[15] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 521, No. 7525.

(e) To mobilize the media and to support civil society with respect to raising public awareness on the consequences of child marriages and early pregnancy and the need to combat them;

(f) To improve education for young women as a means to empower them and as a contribution to preventing early marriages and early pregnancy;

VI
Female infanticide

1. *Condemns* the practice of female infanticide;

2. *Reaffirms* the obligation of States to ensure the protection of the inherent right to life of all children under their jurisdiction, by providing a safe and healthy start in life, by providing access to effective, equitable, sustained and sustainable primary health care systems, and by eliminating gender disparities in primary and secondary education;

3. *Stresses* the need to eliminate all forms of discrimination against the girl child and the root causes of son preference, which result in harmful and unethical practices regarding female infanticide and prenatal sex selection;

4. *Expresses its concern* at the fact that son preference and low value associated with daughters may lead to the neglect of girls through systematic differential access to food and medical care;

5. *Recognizes* the fact that female infanticide reflects a strong economic, cultural and traditional bias that exists in favour of male children and the low status accorded to women in many societies around the world;

6. *Calls upon* States:

(a) To enact and enforce legislation against prenatal nonmedically necessary sex selection;

(b) To formulate comprehensive, multidisciplinary and coordinated national plans, programmes or strategies to eliminate female infanticide and to address, inter alia, the root causes of female infanticide, including the elimination of discriminatory legislation and practices;

(c) To prosecute or facilitate the prosecution of cases of female infanticide and punish those responsible;

(d) To take awareness-raising measures and enact relevant social and economical policies that protect the rights of women and girls in order to promote changing the attitude of son preference;

VII
Sexual abuse of female children

1. *Reaffirms* the obligation of States to undertake to protect the child from all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and to take all appropriate national, bilateral and multilateral measures to prevent the inducement or coercion of a child to engage in any unlawful sexual activity;

2. *Recognizes* that girls are far more likely to be victims of sexual abuse than boys;

3. *Calls upon* States:

(a) To take specific legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect children from sexual abuse;

(b) To take steps to improve the enforcement of legislation aimed at preventing child sexual abuse and punishing the perpetrators;

(c) To provide or facilitate the provision of support services for children and families in cases where incest or sexual abuse has occurred;

(d) To provide or facilitate the provision of child-sensitive facilities such as telephone helplines and shelters, where appropriate, in conjunction with civil society;

(e) To adopt judicial and administrative procedures to prevent sexual abuse of children and to provide effective remedies;

(f) To develop educational programmes to prevent and stop sexual abuse;

(g) To provide training for professionals who work with children, as well as doctors and health-care professionals, in detecting abuse and any signs that may lead to a suspicion of sexual violence and reporting such suspicion to the appropriate authorities;

VIII
Dowry related violence

1. *Condemns* all forms of dowry-related violence, including homicide;

2. *Recognizes* that dowry-related violence takes many different forms, including, murder, rape, battery and other forms of physical abuse as well as psychological abuse;

3. *Welcomes*:

(a) The efforts of States to eliminate dowry-related violence;

(b) The contribution of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to eliminating dowry-related violence;

(c) Legislation that has made the custom of dowry an offence punishable by imprisonment and urges States that have not yet done so to take legislative steps to criminalize the custom of dowry;

4. *Calls upon* States:

(a) To continue to undertake, and, if applicable, improve, implementation of existing legislation prohibiting such practices as dowry, inter alia, through the strengthening of law enforcement;

(b) To provide medical, legal and judicial assistance to victims of dowry-related violence as well as to provide or facilitate the provision of shelter, training and rehabilitation services to victims;

5. *Recognizes* that legislative measures are not sufficient to eliminate dowry-related violence and calls upon States to take all necessary measures designed to change social attitudes that lead to such violence;

6. *Encourages* civil society to continue and intensify its efforts, including awareness-raising, education and information campaigns, to eradicate dowry-related violence;

IX
Acid attacks

1. *Expresses grave concern* at the instances of acid attacks against women and girls;

2. *Expresses concern* that victims often do not report attacks owing to fear of reprisals, while noting with satisfaction that, increasingly, victims report attacks to the police and that authorities prosecute the perpetrators;

3. *Welcomes* the measures taken by States to combat acid attacks, including legal measures, counselling, providing shelters for the victims, and awareness-raising campaigns;

4. *Calls upon* States:

(a) To take all necessary measures, including legal measures and prevention campaigns, to eliminate acid attacks and to bring to justice the perpetrators of such crimes;

(b) To take the necessary legislative measures to restrict, control and monitor the sale of acid;

(c) To support the activities undertaken by civil society to assist victims of acid attacks, including their recovery and social and economic rehabilitation in society;

5. *Invites* relevant United Nations organizations, where appropriate, to assist in the provision of adequate medical facilities for the treatment of acid-burn victims;

X
Rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and intimidation at work, in educational institutions and elsewhere

1. *Notes* that the sexual abuse of women and girls, particularly rape, both violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment by women of their human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Also notes* that sexual harassment in the workplace can seriously impair equality of women in employment and reaffirms in this regard the obligation of States to take appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in the field of employment;

3. *Calls upon* States:

(a) To take measures to prevent and punish cases of sexual abuse of women, particularly rape;

(b) To take all necessary steps to prohibit all sexual harassment or other sexual misconduct affecting the dignity, equality and non-discrimination of women at work in educational institutions or elsewhere;

(c) To take measures to eliminate incidents of sexual harassment of girls in educational and other institutions;

(d) To promote, develop and implement policies combating sexual harassment that include, inter alia, appropriate punishment and disciplinary rules, complaints procedures and mechanisms adapted to sexual harassment that maintain confidentiality and training and communication;

(e) To promote awareness of, information on, and prevention of sexual harassment;

4. *Invites* all employers and those responsible for educational institutions to take all necessary measures to prevent all forms of sexual harassment in the workplace;

XI
Commercial sexual exploitation as well as economic exploitation including trafficking

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 57/176 of 18 December 2002 on the trafficking in women and girls;

2. *Also reaffirms* that violence against women, including violence resulting from commercial sexual exploitation, is incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person and must be combated and eliminated;

3. *Recognizes* that a number of particularly vulnerable groups, including girl children, are at greater risk of sexual exploitation and that girl children are disproportionately represented among the sexually exploited;

4. *Also recognizes* that it is critical to combat the causes of trafficking, such as poverty, gender inequality, the disempowerment of women and girls, and sexual and other forms of exploitation;

5. *Calls upon* States:

(a) To consider signing and ratifying relevant United Nations legal instruments, especially the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[16] and the Protocols thereto, in particular the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,[17] and the Optional Protocol[18] to the Convention on the Rights of the Child[19] on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;

(b) To criminalize trafficking in women and children, in particular girls, in all its forms, and to condemn and penalize all those found guilty of trafficking, including intermediaries, whether local or foreign, through the competent national authorities, either in the country of origin of the offender or in the country in which the abuse occurs, in accordance with due process of law, while ensuring that the victims of those practices are not penalized for being trafficked, and to penalize persons in authority found guilty of sexually assaulting victims of trafficking in their custody;

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[16] Resolution 55/25, annex I.
[17] Ibid., annex II.
[18] See resolution 54/263.
[19] resolution 44/25, annex.

(c) To devise, enforce and strengthen effective measures to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in women and girls through comprehensive anti-trafficking policies, programmes and other measures;

(d) To take appropriate measures to address the root factors, including external factors, that encourage trafficking in women and girls for prostitution and other forms of commercialized sex, forced marriages and forced labour;

(e) To take all appropriate measures, including legislation, to suppress all forms of trafficking in women and exploitation of prostitution of women;

(f) To allocate resources, as appropriate, to provide comprehensive programmes for the physical, psychological and social recovery of victims of trafficking, inter alia, through job training, legal assistance and health care, and by taking measures to cooperate with non-governmental organizations in providing for the social, medical and psychological care of the victims;

XII
Crimes committed in the name of passion

1. *Reaffirms* that crimes against women committed in the name of passion constitute a form of violence against women that impairs or nullifies the enjoyment by women of their human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Calls upon* all States:

(a) To strengthen awareness and preventive measures for the elimination of crimes committed in the name of passion with the aim of changing the attitudes and behaviours that allow such crimes;

(b) To investigate and prosecute crimes against women committed in the name of passion and punish those found guilty of the offences;

XIII
Women and armed conflict

1. *Strongly condemns* violence against women committed in situations of armed conflict, such as murder, rape, including systematic rape, sexual slavery and forced pregnancy, and calls for effective measures in response to these violations of international human rights and humanitarian and criminal law;

2. *Expresses concern* that civilians, particularly women and children, account for the vast majority of those adversely affected by armed conflict, inter alia, as refugees and internally displaced persons, and, increasingly, are targeted by combatants and armed elements, and recognizes the consequent impact this has on durable peace and reconciliation;

3. *Recalls* the inclusion of gender-related crimes and crimes of sexual violence in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[20] which affirms that rape, sexual slavery, enforced prostitution, forced pregnancy, enforced sterilization and other forms of sexual violence constitute, in defined circumstances, a crime against humanity and/or a war crime, and reiterates that acts of sexual

[20] *Official Records of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, Rome, 15 June-17 July 1998; vol. I: Final document* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.I.5), sect. A.

violence in situations of armed conflict can constitute serious violations or grave breaches of international humanitarian law;

4. *Also recalls* Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women, peace and security;

5. *Reaffirms* the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace-building and stresses the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution;

6. *Also reaffirms* the need to implement fully international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law that protects the rights of women and girls during and after conflicts;

7. *Recognizes* the importance of the recommendation contained in the statement of the President of the Security Council to the press on 8 March 2000 for specialized training for all peacekeeping personnel on the protection, special needs and human rights of women and children in conflict situations; [21]

8. *Calls upon* States:

(a) To uphold and reinforce standards set out in international humanitarian law and international human rights instruments to prevent all acts of violence against women in situations of armed and other conflicts;

(b) To investigate all acts of violence against women committed during war, including rape, in particular systematic rape, forced prostitution and other forms of indecent assault and sexual slavery;

(c) To prosecute all those responsible for war crimes against women and provide full redress to women victims;

9. *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflict:

(a) To take special measures to protect women and girls from gender-based violence, particularly rape and other forms of sexual abuse, and other forms of violence in situations of armed conflict;

(b) To respect fully international law applicable to the rights and protection of women and girls, especially as civilians, in particular the obligations applicable to them under the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[22] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[23] the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees[24] and the 1967 Protocol thereto,[25] the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women of 1979[2] and the Optional Protocol thereto of 1999,[26] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child of 1989[19] and the

[21] Press release OBV/195-SC/7027-WOM/1270.
[22] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.
[23] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.
[24] Ibid., vol. 189, No. 2545.
[25] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.
[26] Resolution 54/4, annex.

two Optional Protocols thereto of 25 May 2000,[27] and to bear in mind the relevant provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;

XIV

1. *Urges* States:

(a) To consider, as a matter of priority, becoming parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;

(b) That are parties to the Convention to include, in their reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, information on legal and policy measures adopted and implemented in their efforts to prevent and eliminate violence against women and to cross-reference this information, where appropriate, in reports to other human rights treaty bodies;

(c) To cooperate closely with relevant specialized agencies and United Nations funds and programmes, as well as with regional intergovernmental organizations, as appropriate, and relevant community and non-governmental organizations, including women's organizations, in an effort to eliminate violence against women;

(d) To collect, update and improve collection of data on violence against women, inter alia, through gender-disaggregated information systems which should be made public and disseminated widely;

(e) To intensify efforts to raise collective and individual awareness about violence against women, inter alia, through human rights education, to highlight the role of men and boys in the prevention and elimination of violence against women, and to encourage and support initiatives to promote attitudinal and behavioural change on the part of perpetrators of violence against women and their rehabilitation;

(f) To encourage the efforts of the media to engage in awareness-raising campaigns;

2. *Emphasizes* the need for technical and financial assistance to developing countries in their efforts to eliminate violence against women from United Nations funds and programmes, international and regional financial institutions and bilateral and multilateral donors, and civil society, as well as the need for assistance from the international community to non-governmental organizations and community-based groups active in this field;

3. *Encourages* States to contribute or increase their contribution to the Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women managed by the United Nations Development Fund for Women;

4. *Invites*:

(a) Relevant specialized agencies, United Nations bodies, regional intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to exchange information on the subject of the present resolution, and encourages the exchange of such information between non-governmental organizations active in this field and the relevant human rights treaty bodies;

[27] See resolution 54/263.

(b) The relevant human rights treaty bodies to continue to address this issue, where appropriate, and notes in this regard the relevance of general recommendation 19 of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women;[28]

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To conduct an in-depth study on all forms and manifestations of violence against women, including those outlined in the different sections of the present resolution and relevant documents, disaggregated by type of violence, and based on existing research undertaken and data collected at national, regional and international levels, in particular in the following fields:

(i) A statistical overview on the various forms of violence against women in order to better evaluate the scale of such violence, while identifying gaps in data collection and formulating proposals for assessing the extent of the problem;

(ii) The causes of violence against women, including its root causes and other contributing factors;

(iii) The medium- and long-term consequences of violence against women;

(iv) The health, social and economic costs of violence against women;

(v) The identification of best-practice examples in areas including legislation, policies, programmes, and effective remedies, and the efficiency of such mechanisms to the end of combating and eliminating violence against women;

(b) To cooperate closely with all relevant United Nations bodies, as well as with the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, when preparing the study;

(c) To make the study available to all Member and observer States of the United Nations and, on the basis of this study, to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session including action-oriented recommendations for consideration by States, encompassing, inter alia, effective remedies and prevention and rehabilitation measures;

(d) To submit a progress report on the study to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

6. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its sixtieth session under the item entitled "Advancement of women".

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[28] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/47/38), see chap. I.

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Fifty-eighth session
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Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Benin: draft resolution

Importance of the guidance and role of parents in the care, control and development of their children

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[1]

Recalling also the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s adopted by the World Summit for Children, held in New York on 29 and 30 September 1990,[2]

Recalling further the Declaration and Plan of Action adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh special session,[3]

Reaffirming the vital role played by parents in the life of their children,

Recognizing the need for policies that support and reinforce the conditions that facilitate the effective exercise of the rights, duties and responsibilities of parents, legal guardians and other care givers,

Recognizing also that a considerable number of children live without parental support, such as orphans, street children, internally displaced and refugee children and children affected by trafficking and sexual and economic exploitation,

Aware that families are affected by social and economic changes manifested as observable worldwide trends and that the causes and consequences of those trends concerning families life directly affect children,

[1] Resolution 44/25, annex.
[2] A/45/625, annex.
[3] See resolution 55/2.

03-57105 (E) 211003

Reaffirming the resolve of heads of State and Government, as contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3] to develop and implement strategies that give young people everywhere a real chance to find decent and productive work,

Recalling that Member States resolved in the United Nations Millennium Declaration to ensure that, by the year 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and that girls and boys will have equal access to all levels of education, which requires a renewed commitment to promote literacy for all,

Concerned that the practice of early initiation of sex and sexual partnership among children constitutes, frequently, the basis for adverse and serious consequences, including, inter alia, stigmatization and violence against girls, which result in physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to and serious crimes such as murder, rape and early and forced pregnancy against them,

Gravely concerned that drug problems, despite increasing efforts by States, relevant international organizations, civil society and non-governmental organizations, are still a challenge of global dimension which constitutes a serious threat to the health, safety and well-being of all mankind, in particular young people,

Noting with grave concern the rapid and widespread increase, and the involvement of minors, in the illicit production of, trafficking in and consumption of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including amphetamine-type stimulants and other sorts of synthetic drugs, as well as in the number of children and young people starting to use drugs at an earlier age and having access to substances not previously used,

Aware that the well-being of children is of vital importance to all people of all nations,

Noting that the family-related provisions of the outcomes of the United Nations summits and conferences of the 1990s and their follow-up processes continue to provide policy guidance on ways to strengthen family-centred components of policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

1. *Recognizes* the unique duty and ability of parents to guide children properly, raise them in a healthy environment, impart to them a sense of duty, integrity, responsibility, civic-mindedness, compassion and service towards others, to help strengthen families, communities and nations of the world;

2. *Encourages* parents and legal guardians to the best of their ability to instil confidence and a sense of purpose in their children to draw out their talents and abilities and to encourage them to reach their full potential;

3. *Encourages* parents to remain aware of the need for gender equality in raising their children, so to ensure a just and equitable world for girls;

4. *Reaffirms* the respect for the liberty of parents, and when applicable, legal guardians to ensure the religious and moral education of their children in conformity with their own conviction;

5. *Invites* parents and legal guardians with first responsibility for children and Governments to fight against traffic in children, their prostitution and their enrolment as soldiers in conflict;

6. *Recognizes* that Governments bear an important responsibility for the welfare and development of all children, particularly dependent, abandoned or neglected children, which includes the provision of excellent schools and educational programmes that leave no child behind;

7. *Urges* all Governments to increase support and protection to parents through the provision of safety nets and social protection measures to enable them to better care for their families;

8. *Calls* for special measures to support the considerable number of children who live without parental support and those who are rescued from trafficking;

9. *Invites* all Governments to disseminate relevant information, including outcome documents of summits and conferences related to the well-being of children, in order to raise parents' awareness and to help improve parenting practices;

10. *Decides* that 6 February each year shall be recognized as Parents Day, calls this observance to the attention of the citizens of all nations, and encourages parents to maintain focus on doing even better for their children and to rededicate themselves to providing them the greatest magnitude of love and support they need to become happy, healthy and productive citizens of our communities, nations and the world;

11. *Encourages* all Governments, communities, citizens, religious, academic, media, cultural and civic leaders to recognize Parents Day through proclamations, activities and educational efforts in furtherance of recognizing, raising and supporting the central role of parents in creating better societies, for now and the future;

12. *Decides* to include in the agenda of its fifty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family" a sub-item entitled "Parents";

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on social groups, to devote attention to the implementation of the present resolution.

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Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Bahrain, Egypt, Lebanon, Qatar and Palestine[1]: draft resolution

Situation of and assistance to Palestinian children

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[2]

Recalling also the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s, adopted by the World Summit for Children, held in New York on 29 and 30 September 1990,[3]

Recalling further the Declaration and Plan of Action adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh special session,[4]

Concerned that the Palestinian children under Israeli occupation remain deprived of many basic rights under the Convention,

Concerned also about the continued grave deterioration of the situation of Palestinian children in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and about the severe consequences of the continuing Israeli assaults and sieges on Palestinian cities, towns, villages and refugee camps, resulting in the dire humanitarian crisis,

Expressing its condemnation of all acts of violence, resulting in extensive loss of human life and injuries, including among Palestinian children,

Deeply concerned about the severe consequences, including psychological consequences, of the Israeli military actions on the present and future well-being of Palestinian children,

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[1] In accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/250.
[2] Resolution 44/25, annex.
[3] A/45/625, annex.
[4] See resolution S-27/2, annex.

03-57532 (E) 231003

1. *Stresses* the urgent need for Palestinian children to live a normal life free from foreign occupation, destruction and fear in their own State;

2. *Demands*, in the meanwhile, that Israel, the occupying Power, respect relevant provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[2] and comply fully with the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[5] in order to ensure the well-being and protection of Palestinian children and their families;

3. *Calls upon* the international community to provide urgently needed assistance and services in an effort to alleviate the dire humanitarian crisis being faced by Palestinian children and their families and to help in the reconstruction of relevant Palestinian institutions.

[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

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Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mexico, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Swaziland, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

The girl child

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/189 of 18 December 2002 and all relevant resolutions, including the agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women, in particular those relevant to the girl child,

Reaffirming the equal rights of women and men as enshrined, inter alia, in the Preamble to the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[1] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[2]

Welcoming the entry into force of the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[3]

Welcoming the imminent entry into force, on 25 December 2003, of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,[4] supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[5]

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted on 8 September 2000,[6]

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[1] Resolution 34/180, annex.
[2] Resolution 44/25, annex.
[3] Resolution 54/263, annexes I and II.
[4] Resolution 55/25, annex II.
[5] Resolution 55/25, annex I.
[6] See resolution 55/2.

03-57560 (E) 231003

Reaffirming the outcome document entitled "A world fit for children" adopted by the General Assembly at its special session on children, on 10 May 2002,[7]

Reaffirming also the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth special session,[8]

Recalling all other relevant United Nations conferences, the Beijing Declaration[9] and Platform for Action[10] adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women, the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[11] and the outcome documents of the recent five-year reviews of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[12] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[13]

Reaffirming the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum,[14]

Recalling the Declaration and Agenda for Action adopted at the World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, held at Stockholm from 27 to 31 August 1996,[15] and welcoming the Yokohama Global Commitment 2001, adopted at the Second World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, held at Yokohama, Japan, from 17 to 20 December 2001,[16]

Recalling also the efforts of the international community to strengthen the international legal framework for combating sexual abuse and exploitation,

Recalling further the International Conference on War-Affected Children, held at Winnipeg, Canada, from 10 to 17 September 2000, and affirming the ongoing importance of the Winnipeg Agenda for War-Affected Children[17] for all children affected by armed conflict,

Recognizing the need to achieve gender equality to ensure a just and equitable world for girls,

Deeply concerned about discrimination against the girl child and the violation of the rights of the girl child, which often result in less access for girls to education,

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[7] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

[8] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

[9] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[10] Ibid., annex II.

[11] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[12] Resolution S-21/2, annex.

[13] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[14] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26-28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

[15] A/51/385, annex.

[16] See A/S-27/12, annex.

[17] A/55/467-S/2000/973, annex.

nutrition and physical and mental health care and in girls enjoying fewer of the rights, opportunities and benefits of childhood and adolescence than boys and often being subjected to various forms of cultural, social, sexual and economic exploitation and to violence and harmful practices, such as female infanticide, incest, early marriage, prenatal sex selection and female genital mutilation,

Deeply concerned also that, in situations of poverty, war and armed conflict, girl children are among those most affected and that their potential for full development is thus limited,

Concerned that the girl child has furthermore become the victim of sexually transmitted diseases and increasingly of the human immunodeficiency virus, which have a serious impact on the quality of her life and leave her open to further discrimination,

Concerned also by the increasing number of households headed by children, in particular orphan girls, including those orphaned by the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) pandemic,

Convinced that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance reveal themselves in a differentiated manner for women and girls and can be among the factors leading to a deterioration in their living conditions, poverty, violence, multiple forms of discrimination and limitation or denial of their human rights,

1. *Stresses* the need for full and urgent implementation of the rights of the girl child as guaranteed to her under all human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child[2] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[1] as well as the need for universal ratification of those instruments;

2. *Urges* States to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[18] and the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child;[3]

3. *Urges* all States to take all necessary measures and to institute legal reforms to ensure the full and equal enjoyment by the girl child of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, to take effective action against violations of those rights and freedoms and to base programmes and policies for the girl child on the rights of the child;

4. *Urges* all Governments and the United Nations system to strengthen efforts bilaterally and with international organizations and private sector donors in order to achieve the goals of the World Education Forum,[14] in particular that of eliminating gender disparities in primary and secondary education by 2005, and to implement the United Nations Girls' Education Initiative as a means of reaching this goal, and reaffirms the commitment contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[6] in this regard;

5. *Calls upon* all States to take measures to address the obstacles that continue to affect the achievement of the goals set forth in the Beijing Platform for Action,[10] as contained in paragraph 33 of the further actions and initiatives to

[18] Resolution 54/4, annex.

implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[19] where appropriate, including the strengthening of national mechanisms to implement policies and programmes for the girl child and, in some cases, to enhance coordination among responsible institutions for the realization of the human rights of girls, as indicated in the further actions and initiatives;

6. *Urges* States to enact and strictly enforce laws to ensure that marriage is entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses, to enact and strictly enforce laws concerning the minimum legal age of consent and the minimum age for marriage and to raise the minimum age for marriage where necessary;

7. *Also urges* States to fulfil their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, as well as the commitment to implement the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century";[11]

8. *Urges* all States to ensure that all girls have equal access to basic social services, as stipulated in paragraph 23 of the outcome document entitled "A world fit for children",[7] adopted by the General Assembly at its special session on children;

9. *Recognizes* the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health, and urges all States to ensure that any disparities in health and access to basic social services, including health-care services, are addressed, as stipulated in paragraphs 23 and 24 of the outcome document entitled "A world fit for children";

10. *Urges* all States to enact and enforce legislation to protect girls from all forms of violence and exploitation, including female infanticide and prenatal sex selection, female genital mutilation, rape, domestic violence, incest, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, child prostitution and child pornography, trafficking and forced labour, and to develop age-appropriate safe and confidential programmes and medical, social and psychological support services to assist girls who are subjected to violence;

11. *Urges* States to formulate comprehensive, multidisciplinary and coordinated national plans, programmes or strategies to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, which should be widely disseminated and should provide targets and timetables for implementation, as well as effective domestic enforcement procedures through the establishment of monitoring mechanisms involving all parties concerned, including consultations with women's organizations, giving attention to the recommendations relating to the girl child of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences;

12. *Calls upon* all States and international and non-governmental organizations, individually and collectively, to implement further the Beijing Platform for Action, in particular the strategic objectives relating to the girl child,

[19] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

and the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

13. *Urges* States to take appropriate measures to address the needs of orphan girls by implementing national policies and strategies to build and strengthen governmental, family and community capacities to provide a supportive environment for orphans, in particular girls, infected and affected by HIV/AIDS, including by providing appropriate counselling and psychosocial support, ensuring their enrolment in school and access to shelter, good nutrition and health and social services on an equal basis with other children, and to protect orphans and vulnerable children from all forms of abuse, violence, exploitation, discrimination, trafficking and loss of inheritance by 2005;

14. *Urges* States to take special measures for the protection of war-affected girls and in particular to protect them from sexually transmitted diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, gender-based violence, including rape and sexual abuse, and sexual exploitation, torture, abduction and forced labour, paying special attention to refugee and displaced girls, and to take into account the special needs of the war-affected girl child in the delivery of humanitarian assistance and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes;

15. *Notes with concern* all the cases of sexual exploitation and abuse of women and children, especially girls, in humanitarian crises, including those cases involving humanitarian workers and peacekeepers, welcomes in this regard the Secretary-General's Bulletin on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse[20] and other policies and codes of conduct developed by the United Nations system to prevent and address such incidents, and requests contributing countries to incorporate the six core principles of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee on Emergencies[21] into pertinent codes of conduct for peacekeeping personnel and to develop appropriate disciplinary and accountability mechanisms;

16. *Urges* all States and the international community to respect, protect and promote the rights of the child, taking into account the particular vulnerabilities of the girl child in pre-conflict, conflict and post-conflict situations, and calls for special initiatives designed to address all of the rights and needs of war-affected girls;

17. *Calls upon* Governments, civil society, including the media, and non-governmental organizations to promote human rights education and the full respect for and enjoyment of the human rights of the girl child, inter alia, through the translation, production and dissemination of age-appropriate information material on those rights to all sectors of society, in particular to children;

18. *Calls upon* States and international and non-governmental organizations to mobilize all necessary resources, support and efforts to realize the goals, strategic objectives and actions set out in the Beijing Platform for Action and the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

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[20] ST/SGB/2003/13.

[21] See A/57/465, annex I, para. 10 (a).

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to ensure that all organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, individually and collectively, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Labour Organization, take into account the rights and the particular needs of the girl child in the country programme of cooperation in accordance with the national priorities, including through the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;[22]

20. *Requests* all human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and other human rights mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and its Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights to adopt regularly and systematically a gender perspective in the implementation of their mandates and to include in their reports information on the qualitative analysis of violations of the human rights of women and girls, and encourages the strengthening of cooperation and coordination in that regard;

21. *Stresses* the importance of a substantive assessment of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action with a life-cycle perspective so as to identify gaps and obstacles in the implementation process and to develop further actions for the achievement of the goals of the Platform for Action;

22. *Requests* Member States to ensure that, in preventing and addressing HIV/AIDS, particular attention is paid to the girl child infected and affected by HIV/AIDS;

23. *Decides* to review progress made on the protection and promotion of the rights and well-being of the girl child, and requests the Secretary-General to provide information relating to the girl child in his reports on the implementation of the outcomes of any major United Nations conferences and summit meetings that will come up for review in 2005.

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[22] See A/53/226, paras. 72-77 and A/53/226/Add.1, paras. 88-98.

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Agenda item 106 and 121

Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005

Preparations for the observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2004

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.2 (as amended by A/C.3/58/L.12)

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. Under the terms of operative paragraph 6 of draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.2 (as amended by A/C.3/58/L.12), the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to launch the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family on 4 December 2003.

2. Under the terms of operative paragraph 6 bis of draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.2 (as amended by A/C.3/58/L.12), the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to staff and strengthen the family unit in consideration of the celebration of the International Year of the Family and beyond and of the family-related dimensions of the millennium development goals.

3. Consistent with and in response to the Secretary-General's reform initiative (see A/57/387 and Corr.1), the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs has been reorganized with a view to realigning resources with priorities. In responding to specific legislative mandates, the Division draws on the skills and expertise of its entire staff. In the area of social integration, this approach applies to issues of family, ageing, youth and disability. While the organizational structure of the Division does not include a dedicated family unit, the present holistic approach to social integration enables the Secretariat to effectively and efficiently address intergenerational issues collectively as well as

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for each social group. It is the intention of the Secretariat to meet the requirements of the programme of work related to the family from within existing resources.

4. The attention of the Committee is drawn to the provisions of section VI of General Assembly resolution 45/248 B of 21 December 1990, in which the Assembly reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee was the appropriate Main Committee of the Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters; and reaffirmed also the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. Under the circumstances, the consideration by the Third Committee of paragraph 6 bis of draft resolution A/C.3/58/L.2 (as amended by A/C.3/58/L.12) may be considered to be in contravention of resolution 45/248 B as it directly addresses resource issues which fall within the exclusive prerogative of the Fifth Committee.